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judicial interpretation, by which the legislative measures of congress have been emasculated and modified.

The chief fault which the reader finds, as the author anticipated, is the "exuberant mass of illustrative material." In particular does the first part of the volume, dealing with rates, appear over-elaborate. The lack of proportion between the space devoted to premise and that devoted to conclusion gives some of the chapters the appearance of being a somewhat confused mass of concrete details, the import of which would have been made plainer, had the material been subjected to a rigorous process of boiling.

The book is written in Professor Ripley's usual vigorous, pleasing style, and in spite of the elaboration, the interest of the reader does not lag. There are several errors in minor particulars, such as putting Dunkirk, New York, in Ohio (p. 8), making Peter Cooper's engine have its trial run out of Philadelphia (p. 8), calling Austria-Hungary the most sparsely populated country in Europe (p. 35), and giving the date of the Trans-Missouri Freight Association decision as 1896 (p. 111), the correction of which would leave greater justification for the claim as to "scientific rigor."

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TALLENTYRE, S. S. *The Life of Mirabeau*. Pp. vii, 366. Price, \$3.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1912.

This is the first American edition of this work though a reprint from the second English edition which appeared some years ago. In writing the life of Mirabeau, Mr. Tallentyre had a congenial task. He has a keen liking for the personal, the romantic and the spectacular sides of history, and naturally finds in the career of this eighteenth century tribune of the people, ample scope to indulge his tastes. Born of a "tempestuous race," clever as they were undisciplined, Gabriel-Honoré de Riquetti, Comte de Mirabeau, inherited in full measure the good and evil tendencies save one. Heir to a handsome family, he was "awe-strikingly ugly" as a baby, and at three years old he was scarred for life by confluent small-pox. Affectionate and generous, he had a tyrannical father, a weak-minded passionate mother, a faithless wife, two dearly-loved children, one of whom he never saw, and both of whom died while Mirabeau was imprisoned in the Donjon of Vincennes. Naturally extravagant he was neither taught wise expenditure nor given a suitable allowance. Charged with boundless energy he was given no career. Trained only to be a soldier his father would not or could not buy him a commission. When the *lettres de cachet* of his father gave him years of confinement in one prison after another he turned to writing and developed a ready and eloquent style. Through a sojourn in England he became an ardent admirer of Chatham while his mission to Berlin brought him into contact with Frederick the Great.

Unfortunately, by the time his great opportunity came with the call of the Estates General, dissoluteness had undermined his health, while poverty had driven him to a betrayal of faith in publishing the Secret History of the Court of Berlin in order to obtain money to pay his election expenses. Notwithstanding the many obstacles in his way, however, it needed only the chance of his election

to Estates General to bring out the herculean powers of the man. Less than two years, years of incessant work and fight, were left to him, for he had to pay the price of vicious living by premature death in 1791 at the age of 42, at the height of his fame, the greatest man in France.

Mr. Tallentyre's keen sense for the dramatic, his pleasing style, and a fair amount of patience and scholarly-mindedness in weighing and sifting evidence, has given us a very readable book. While he does not hesitate to disclose the shortcomings of his hero, we often detect the pleading of an advocate rather than the impartial historian. Sources could have been used to better advantage, as is evidenced by the difference in the account of Mirabeau's wife's infidelity (pp. 36-38) and the original letters as quoted by M. Moullet, *Mirabeau en Provence*. There is no mention of Fling: *Mirabeau and The French Revolution*, Vol. I of which appeared in 1908, and which would have served the author well in certain important instances, where his own research has left him in doubt. It would also have revealed to him that "Gouverneur" is not translated into "Governor."

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THWING, C. F. *The Family*. Pp. 258. Price, \$1.60. Boston: Lathrop, Lee and Shepard Company, 1913.

This volume, originally published in 1886, written by the president of Western Reserve University, in collaboration with his wife, was at the time a very interesting and generally accurate discussion from the standpoint of the moralist rather than that of the historian. A year or so ago, the original edition was republished, unchanged, with no reference whatever to the tremendous development of interest and to the extended studies on the family that had appeared in the interim. Apparently, the publishers and the author have come to realize that this was inadequate. The result is a new edition. In this, the bulk of the older text remains substantially unchanged. For illustration: The monumental work of Westermarck is referred to only once, and then only to quote a few lines in support of some position of the author. To the work has been added a very comprehensive bibliography, not prepared by the author, of the books published since the first edition. Unfortunately, however, this bibliography contains titles of a good many important books with which President Thwing seems unacquainted. Thus, in his preface, he states that chapter iii has been greatly enlarged, that he may present more fully the teachings of Christ regarding the family. In this discussion of the development of the early Church, it would seem to the reviewer that some attention should have been paid to the volume published in 1907 by James Donaldson, but there is nothing in the text to indicate that the author ever saw the book. The rewriting of chapter xi, under the title *The Family Destroyed* is far more satisfactory, and yet the author does not indicate that he has seen the volume which is generally considered as the best study of divorce yet printed in this country, although it too is included in the supplementary bibliography. Chapter xii is a new chapter—*The Family Under Socialized Society*, in which some of the newer theories in reference to the family, payment of mothers, eugenics and similar topics are treated.